

# Maine Farmer

AGRICULTURE MECHANIC ARTS LITERATURE NEWS &c.

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"OUR HOME, OUR COUNTRY, AND OUR BROTHER MAN."

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No. 9.

## Maine Farmer.

Much winter butter is colored too much. Give it only a natural June tint. This best suits the trade.

The sale of a large shipment of Florida oranges in Liverpool is reported in the last sale list sent out from that market. This was the first shipment to that market ever made from that State.

Nowhere in the Grange work is there disclosed any effort that invites criticism from any intelligent, well disposed person, of whatever faith or affiliation. Their work is purely good in its intent, and can only find opposition from the evil minded.

The legislative agent of the Massachusetts State Grange states a glaring truth in his report to the Grange. "We talk and work for the farm and home," said he, "for 364 days in the year, and on the 365th give it all away at the dictates of one political party or the other."

Look carefully after the young stock to keep it thrifty and growing. A winter without growth is time and fodder lost. The good hay is in short supply this winter, but a little cotton seed meal or linseed meal will make up for the inferior quality of the poor hay.

"We lose a valuable opportunity for building up our organization when we fail to place before the reading public a correct impression in regard to our aims and purposes," said State Master Bachelor of New Hampshire. Members of the order should take notice. The *Farmer* is the medium through which this can be done.

The *Farmer* was the only paper in the State that published in full all the committee reports voicing the standing of the order on the great and important matters for which the Grange is doing battle, thus proving it now, as ever, the only reliable standard bearer of the interests of the farmer and the Grange. We are pleased to note that the aid thus rendered is fully appreciated by the order.

### LESSONS FROM THE BUTTER-SCORE.

The pressure on the columns of the *Farmer* since the dairyman's meeting at Brunswick, occasioned by the publication of the addresses, reports, and detailed transactions of the meeting of the State Grange, following the next week after, has prevented, up to this time, calling attention, as we purposed, to some important facts plainly shown in the tabulated scaling of the butter exhibits as given in our report of that meeting. The object of such exhibitions is to aid and instruct dairymen in better work, and the object of the *Farmer* in publishing the full scale of the samples on exhibition, together with the full report of proceedings, was to give the advantages afforded a wider influence and a more useful mission. We ask that each dairyman reading this article, and who is desirous of improving his methods and getting more money out of his business, will take the butter-scale published in the issue of Dec. 22, and with it before him, give attention to some of the facts there shown.

In the first place, a sample of factory butter scored as high—that is, it was as good in every respect—as any sample of private make. Here is an important fact. It is generally conceded that it is possible for the private dairyman to make a better butter than is practicable from the mixed cream gathered from a community of farmers. The lesson, then, here shown is that the private dairyman are not doing their work as well as are the patrons of the factories. If they were, there should be some better butter among the private make than from the factories.

The fact of the defective work of the private dairyman is still further shown by the tables. Of eight samples of factory butter there was none that scored below 88 points. In fifteen samples of private make there were only two that scored as high as the lowest of the creamery. Thus, thirteen samples of the fifteen shown of private make were not as good as the lowest quality of the creamery make. Certainly, here is a lesson that private dairymen will do well to heed. The low scale of so many samples, as shown in the tables, is a record of some very defective work.

A study of the figures plainly shows where that defect is. In each of Mr. Nichols' four samples of factory make, the grain, color and moisture were perfect, with the single exception that in one case there was a point off in moisture. In solidity they were all within one point of perfection. No sample of all that was shown from factories graded off but a single point in these several directions. Turning to the private make, it is seen that but very few samples came up to this standard, while several of them made a much lower record. Thus the fact is made plain that the cream is not as well handled, nor the different manipulations as well carried on, with the private dairyman as with the factoryman.

In the matter of flavor, the private make compared favorably with the factory samples. This is a quality of butter that primarily is due to the quality of

the feed given to the cows. It is all defective, due to the fact, probably, that the cows are on winter feed. That the flavor scaled no lower is proof that the cream was well cared for in the hands of those who had it in charge, and was not vitiated by bad surroundings while ripening. That much of the private make should be so defective in solidity and grain is probably accounted for in the fact that many private dairymen have not provided themselves with the necessary arrangements for controlling the temperature of the cream. Even slight variations work bad results. No one thing can go wrong without its effect on the product.

If each one of the exhibitors at the Brunswick meeting will accept the fact that the scaling of the samples of butter was faithfully and efficiently done, and will take home to himself or herself the valuable lessons the figures teach, an advantage of great value may be gained. There may be honor in standing at the head and winning the prize, but the individual whose product was rated lower in the scale, if thus led to improved work and a better product, will be the one who gains the greatest advantage from the exhibition. It is far better to learn a valuable lesson than to take a premium.

### HEROES FROM THE STATE GRANGES.

The session of the New Hampshire State Grange was held on the same days of our Maine meeting. The address of State Master Hunt, together with the full text of all of the important committee reports, and the discussions following, published in the *Farmer* of last week, gave a clear and full idea of the aims, purposes and efforts of the order in this State. From the able address of State Master N. J. Bachelor of New Hampshire, we call some of the leading ideas as showing the line of work of the Grange in that State, and the measure of success attending their efforts.

The State Master reports that since the last annual session no Grange in that State has become dormant; and that during that same period twenty-seven subordinate and two Pomona Granges have been organized, making the subordinate granges number 159 and the Pomona 12. The present membership is 12,000, having made an unprecedented net gain during the year. This numerical increase is reported as accompanied by a corresponding interest and zeal among the membership in carrying forward Grange work in all its branches. He reminds the grange that with this increased power and influence comes increased responsibility demanding thoughtful consideration to the effect of the action, taken not only upon the farming interests but also on the general welfare and prosperity of the State. The order enjoys to-day an unblemished reputation for conservative and progressive action. Caution should be exercised that no backward steps be taken.

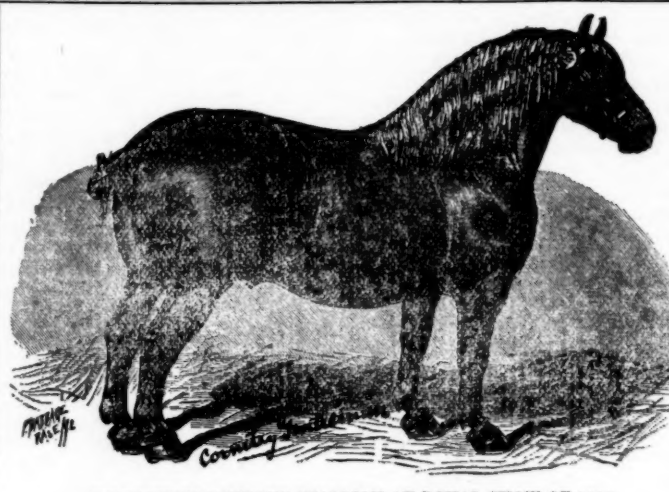
The political privileges of farmers are referred to, and attention called to the lack of interest manifested and the consequent silence of farmers on matters of a public nature, and in which they are themselves directly concerned. The fact is called up as a sad commentary on the farmers, that in one of the strictly agricultural counties of the State in the recent election only three farmers were elected to the legislature. This is referred to as an instance in proof that farmers fail to look after their own interests in public affairs.

In matters educational, attention is called to their State College, and it is set down as a duty and a privilege to become interested in its management and to see that the faculty perform their duty faithfully. They should insist that the best qualified man in the country be placed at its head; they should also insist that agriculture in its various branches be taught as far as practicable, to the end that the instruction there gained may enable the young farmers of the State to become more successful tillers of the soil.

Lecture work is commended, for while rejoicing in past growth and present strength they should bear in mind that it will not be safe to rely upon either for future progress. It will require the exercise of all resources at hand to hold the interest, and stimulate to activity this large membership. The most potent factor in accomplishing this lies in the lecture field.

The influence of the press in aid of the Grange is fully acknowledged. The most powerful agent in the State, he claims, in shaping public opinion and the most potent influence in building up or destroying an enterprise or organization is the newspaper press. The success attending Grange work in that State is in a measure due to the loyal support and constant encouragement received therefrom. The members of the order should appreciate this interest by liberal patronage and contributions to the Grange department. We lose a valuable opportunity for building up our organization when we fail to place before the reading public a correct impression in regard to our objects and purposes.

E. D. Howe, Master of Massachusetts State Grange, reports over a thousand increase in members during the past year, and the organization of six new Granges,



FIRST PRIZE SUFFOLK STALLION AT ROYAL SHOW OF 1892.

and nearly every Grange in a vigorous condition.

Among a list of questions given pressing for early attention we select the following:

A revision of the tax laws. The raising of money for school purposes by State tax.

Legislation looking to the improvement of country roads.

The Swiss method of legislation, known as the "Initiative and referendum," the chief feature of which provides that laws for the government of the people shall be referred to the people for endorsement before their enactment.

State Master, Alpha Messer of Vermont, reports a large increase of members, and three new Grange halls during the year. He goes on to say that this increase is the result of steady, efficient work by the members and a better appreciation of the good work of the Grange by those outside the gate.

He says the farmers of the State are in favor of good roads and are willing to be taxed to a reasonable extent for their maintenance. But before large debts are incurred for extended road improvements, they first ask that taxation shall be evenly distributed so that a just proportion of the cost shall fall on those who are best able to pay for their construction.

In common with the other New England Masters, he endorses the aid of the press in carrying on the good work, and regards its newspapers as bulwarks of strength to the order, and an absolute necessity for maintaining its strength and increasing its influence.

Such are the matters of public interest, as laid down by the highest authorities in the State organizations, to which the Grange here in New England is directing its attention at the present time. That the work can be endorsed by every intelligent individual seeking the welfare of the public, no one can for a moment question. The Grange has a grand work in hand and is making marked progress in carrying it on.

### GOOD ROADS.

"The gospel of good roads is spreading everywhere," says L. H. Bailey, in the January *American Gardener*. "The seed has been planted, and this year will witness its germination and growth. This mission is one of patriotism and philanthropy. It is one of the crowning movements of the closing century. We shall make the country pleasant and habitable, and shall tie all its interests together by enduring bands of stone and gravel. The road mission has long since passed its initiative stage. No power can check it now. It has gathered an irresistible impetus from every part of the land, and needs only the wisdom of a few bold minds to put it into enduring form. The movement demands Statecraft as well as the engineer's craft. The great Road Congress, which has just closed in Indiana, shows the hold which the movement has obtained upon the people. It was not a partisan movement, but a gathering of over 200 farmers and business men from every part of the State, under the auspices of the Indianapolis Commercial Club. Probably no body ever sat in the Indiana State House which in the same length of time transacted business of such immense import to the State. This would have been true, if nothing more had come of the deliberations than the moral purpose to overturn the present system of road-management and to build up a new one. The Congress decided to advise the legislature to abolish the present system of district supervisors, and create a county superintendency, to be filled by appointment of the county commissioners. A town supervisor of highways, who shall be subordinate to the county officer, is also contemplated. The tendency of the whole road movement is toward a centralized plan in each State, with a few competent engineers, who shall have charge of large areas. This is the only feasible plan, because it ensures—as has any such movement—can the employment of skilled supervisors, and a uniform method of treatment of large areas of highway. The Indiana Congress organized itself into the Indiana Highway Improvement Association. *American Gardener* is pledged to

every influence which promises better highways. This year will bring interesting developments."

### THE MCINTOSH RED.

From J. B. Mayhew, Readfield Depot, we have received fine samples of the McIntosh Red apple of his own raising. For a dessert apple in late autumn and early winter this variety is proving very acceptable. It is quite rich and juicy, and when fully ripened has a vinous flavor very acceptable to the palate. The flesh is soft and skin tough, resembling the well known Fameuse, and is quite as good as that popular kind. In the office where the specimens sent were tested the verdict was, "very nice, and high toned."

This tree is a hardy, strong grower, and an early and heavy bearer. Like the Fameuse in many localities it is liable to "scab." Mr. Mayhew spoke highly of the fruit, as will be seen by the following letter for which and the fruit he has the thanks of the *Farmer*:

Mr. Editor: My first knowledge of the McIntosh Red apple was during the season of 1880, after coming out to this place in Nov., 1888. It has fruited each of the four seasons bearing from two bushels to a barrel a year. The tree is about 12 or 14 years old, and is near the middle of a small orchard of 25 trees, set at one time. The tree is of slow growth and is the smallest in the lot. It is a very agreeable dessert apple, seldom, if ever, surpassed. I consider it at its best about the time of the holidays, but my wife, who likes an apple more tart than I do, thinks its season commences by the middle of November. It will keep till near or quite the first of March. With us it has proved to be very free from scabiness, of which other complaints, growing about the size of the Baldwin and most all smooth and handsome; but very few specimens are wormy, which, I suppose, is owing to its fine, tough skin. It has proved itself here, to be a very desirable fruit, and I grafted several trees last spring and intend to increase the number next season. I forgot to say that perhaps from a peck to one-half bushel may have dropped before harvesting a year. Yours truly, J. B. MAYHEW.

Readfield Depot, Dec. 27.

### BONE MEAL AND ABORTION.

A correspondent of the *Breeder's Gazette* claims to have successfully eliminated abortion from his herd of cows by feeding bone meal. We confess to much doubt about this treatment being the cause of the disappearance of the difficulty from the herd, yet the claimed remedy is so simple and so easy of trial that it may be well to lay aside all doubts and give the claim a trial. Abortion is a serious matter and blights the profits of many a fine herd without distinction of breed or care.

The method of feeding the bone meal referred to was to mix with salt in the proportion of one of the former to three of the latter, and give the cows free access to the mixture.

At a meeting of the Illinois dairyman's association a year ago, this matter of abortion came up for discussion, when a Mr. Boyd recommended a use of phosphate of lime as a preventative. This of course is practically the same thing as the bone meal, save only in form, and coming from another party gives additional weight to the claim. The phosphate of lime is mixed with salt in the proportion of one to six. Try it.

### STATE POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The annual winter meeting of the State Pomological Society to be held in this city, at Meonion Hall, Jan. 17th and 18th, promises to be of unusual interest. More attention than usual is to be given to what may properly be termed the ethics of horticulture. The ladies who are to address the meeting are well known through their public labors, and will receive a hearty welcome from all. We bespeak a large attendance from this and adjoining counties, and a lively interest in the exercises.

The officers of the Sagadahoc Agricultural and Horticultural Society recently elected have organized as follows: Ed. Winslow, president and general superintendent; John F. Baker, chairman of executive committee and superintendent of cattle department; James E. Fulton, superintendent of horse department; Bryce M. Patten, superintendent of fairs; Fred Wright, assistant superintendent of fairs; Harvey Green, superintendent of vendors and restaurants. After organizing the committee began work in revising the premium lists for the 39th fair.

### LIVE STOCK ANNUAL MARKET REPORT, 1892.

Statistics of the Boston Live Stock Market for the Year 1892.

We present herewith our annual statement of the amount of live stock at the Watertown and Brighton Stock Yards, showing the increase and decrease as compared with the nine preceding years:

	1883	1884	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892
Cattle	10,747	10,747	10,747	10,747	10,747	10,747	10,747	10,747	10,747	10,747
Sheep	10,747	10,747	10,747	10,747	10,747	10,747	10,747	10,747	10,747	10,747
Pigs	10,747	10,747	10,747	10,747	10,747	10,747	10,747	10,747	10,747	10,747

WHERE THE STOCK IS FROM.

We give for reference the following table, showing the number of cattle and sheep from each of the New England States, northern New York, Canada, and the West, for each quarter, with the total receipts for 1892, and each of the six preceding years:

	Me.	N.H.	Vt.	Mass.	R.I.	C.N.Y.	West.	Canada.	Total.
Mar. 30	970	1,380	1,940	1,372	268	44,124	...	...	50,066
June 29	1,020	836	1,317	1,371	213	40,259	...	...	45,526
Sept. 28	1,610	1,717	1,529	1,233	12	40,733	...	...	46,920
Dec. 28	3,520	3,061	2,583	1,813	76	191	29,388	...	40,532
Total 1892	7,120	6,994	7,369	5,779	96	768	19,825	...	188,563

### TRANSPORTATION OF LIVE STOCK.

The following is a carefully prepared detail of the ways of transportation whereby cattle and sheep reach Watertown and Brighton stock yards, as taken from our weekly stock market reports:

	Me.	N.H.	Vt.	Mass.	R.I.	C.N.Y.	West.	Canada.	Total.
Mar. 30	1,558	8,739	13,732	3,963	153	94,465	359	122,540	143,216
June 29	2,500	2,500	7,732	2,229	1,253	105,336	25,675	169,659	174,555
Sept. 28	3,530	4,846	16,745	4,778	4,054	105,336	25,675	169,659	174,555
Dec. 28	26,273	8,918	35,479	1,138	5,271	26,867	70,928	174,555	...

In compiling the above tables we find an increase of cattle over 1891 of 27,776 head; of sheep, 13,729 less; of hogs, 165,886 more; of calves, 3,411 more; of horses, 2,945 less. Cattle, hogs and calves are ahead in numbers. These figures are gratifying inasmuch as hogs and calves have been sold at a profit, and cattle have not diminished in valuation. The market for sheep has been about as the previous year, with heavy supplies for the past few months which was the cause of low rates during that time, but comparing prices of this week with last January and we find but little variation. The supply of horses for the year reached 33,136 head, against 36,082 for 1891, and 36,773 head for 1890. Common grade horses have arrived too freely and have sold very low, but good horses have been sold at fair prices. Heavy truck horses have been in good demand for the larger part of the year, selling at \$160@\$200. The hog market has been in a thriving condition for the past twelve months and prices on Western live, at the present time have reached 6 1/2 @ 7c, as delivered at slaughter houses. Taking the market as a whole, there is but little to complain of. The Fitchburg Railroad have just completed the double track from West Cambridge to Union market, and are to double the whole branch to Waltham; a big thing for the Watertown market.

### FARMER REPORTER.

W. F. Greely of Durham was at Waldoboro last week to examine the corn packing plant. He interviewed some of the farmers and went away with a good impression of the prospects of doing business in Waldoboro. The other day, H. L. Farnham of Raymond was there for the same purpose. Others are expected, and there seems to be no doubt that somebody will occupy the plant next season.

Mr. E. K. Ray, Franklin, Mass., claims that cotton seed meal is better than gluten meal for making good milk or butter. Just what the contents of it would indicate!

### Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

THE STARK APPLE.

BY W. H. VINTON.

Mr. Editor: In the last *Farmer*, inquiry is made concerning this apple, and you also ask for information about it, so I will give you an item. Some years ago, a near neighbor of mine, having a piece of ground well adapted to the purpose, prepared it and set it out to apple trees. He set out these trees with special reference to varieties. The rows are all of equal length, twenty trees in a row. The first row, next to the road, is the Ben Davis, the next is the Stark, the next is the Northern Spy, the next is the Waltham, and then the Wagner and other varieties. The Baldwin and E. I. Greening with him are failures. He has taken special care of these trees, and the ground on which they grow, keeping out the borers, washing them, and keeping constant watch over them. This orchard is not only side of the road, but is in plain sight of my house. I see it every time I look that way. In all my experience and observation, I have never seen any trees grow as those have. I have had occasion frequently to remark that they look as though they were greased; and they do to-day. Yesterday I went all through this orchard and examined every tree. While all are thrifty, there is a marked difference in favor of the Stark. This row, the whole of it, is from a third to one-half larger than anything else in the orchard, showing conclusively that it is a most thrifty and hardy grower. So much for the trees.

### FEEDERS' COLUMN.

Feeding Once a Day.

The above heading may look somewhat cranky, but before passing the article by in contempt, please for a moment at least, remember that none of us, nor all of us together, have yet learned all about feeding. Feeding but twice a day was a wild idea but a few years ago, yet now is a common practice, highly recommended by many of the best feeders. Remembered at all times that it is the food digested from which the gain is made.

A Missouri cattle feeder claims that when feeding steers liberally with whole corn he gets better returns by feeding it but once a day, and his figures go to prove the assertion.

Prof. Henry, of the Wisconsin Experiment Station, takes up the one feed a day matter in the *Breeder's Gazette*, and brings up two examples in favor of the practice. One of these was a case of oxen at work. Mr. Dexter Curtis reported that many years ago, when employing oxen in heavy logging, in changing drivers a promising candidate stipulated that he must be allowed to feed the cattle as he wished. This was agreed to, and his system was as follows: The cattle were yoked in the morning and worked until the noon hour, when they were given water and went on with the heavy labor until night, when a generous feed was supplied. Mr. Curtis expected at first to see the cattle run down under their heavy work and once-a-day feeding. To his surprise they gained in weight and were never more healthy or in better condition.

The other case was that of the express horses of the well known Wells, Fargo & Co., of San Francisco. A visit to their stables last summer afforded the opportunity to learn of their practice in feeding.

Every matter of detail was carefully explained by the courteous superintendent, Mr. Z. Birdsell, a great lover of a good horse and a most faithful, observing manager. The labor of the horses used by this company is hard at all times, often excessive. In one instance a 1,300 lb. horse, drawing a truck weighing 2,800 lbs., moved a four and a quarter ton safe three-quarters of a mile, a portion of which was up a slight grade.

At four in the morning the horses are given a feed of dry oats with a little bran, they are then cleaned, watered, and start out between five and six o'clock. They receive no feed of any kind during the day, but are watered. They come in at five or six in the evening, when they are cleaned and given a generous feed. Mr. Birdsell is strongly of the opinion that it is not best to give any grain to his horses during the working hours of the day. The animals under his charge showed that his system is a success in this case at least.

### SETTING YOUNG TREES IN OLD ORCHARDS.

BY A. E. FAUGHT.

In the late papers I have read some articles in relation to planting young trees in old orchards, and as I was interested somewhat I thought that I would give my views, as I see them, and only hope that they may go for what they are worth.

In setting young trees in old orchards, or on land that has long been used for orcharding, with the view of raising a nice, thrifty orchard, one often meets with disappointment. I do not ever remember of seeing a right-down good orchard where this has been done. There may have been such instances, but I have failed to see them. However, it may be advisable to set an occasional tree to fill out spaces where some of the old trees have died out, as these may do somewhat, and bear a few years, which is better than to have the land go wholly to waste while in the orchard. But for a man to set out a young orchard on land that has been long used for an orchard is folly, certainly if he expects to get a thrifty orchard.

It sometimes happens that the farmer has no suitable soil on which to plant an orchard unless he takes the site of the old orchard, but this only happens to but few, we think, and should not the soil be quite so well adapted to orcharding it would be preferable to an old site. But if an old site must be used, then let it be plowed and tilled for many years, if the time can be spent before setting the trees, for the only way to succeed with an old site is to plow and enrich the soil with heavy dressing for a series of years before setting for a new orchard. My belief is that old trees have so reduced the soil in the necessary element for tree growth, that it will take many years of tillage and heavy dressing to bring the soil back to a condition suitable to produce a thrifty orchard. Perhaps other trees than the apple tree might land, but the apple tree needs a soil that is not robbed of its necessary elements by a former orchard.

Sidney.

### MANAGEMENT OF DAIRY COWS.

BY C.

Editor *Maine Farmer*: While conversing with one of my townsmen on the management of dairy cows, and the kind of grain used, he made the statement that he gave one quart each of cotton seed and corn meal, in two feeds per day.

This did not give the results anticipated. He then dropped the corn meal and gave only the cotton seed meal, with no perceptible falling off, either in milk or butter. He then added one quart of fine middlings to the quart of cotton seed meal, which increased both the quantity of milk and butter over the corn and cotton seed meal feed. My experience is that while the middlings and cotton seed meal may give an increase of milk, it will not increase the butter product. Is the statement made by my townsmen in accord with other experienced feeders? Norway.

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### STRICT REGULARITY IN FEEDING.

Mr. Editor: Please find two dollars in payment for the *Maine Farmer* in 1892. I notice in your feeding stock column that you request the views of the farmers in regard to feeding stock, but I am most too old to write on this subject. One thing I consider important—that is regular hours of feeding. In the winter of 1880-81 I had two six-ox teams at one camp. One of the men that drove my teams was as regular as possible in feeding; one hour they were allowed to eat, and no more. The other man had to stop and cut his tobacco and light his pipe before he fed his team. The consequence was that he was behind all winter, for he fed at all hours, and left more waste of hay in one month than the other man made for all winter. And that wasn't all, for in the spring one team was as sick as the other was looking very rough. And now I am in my 80th year, but I still prefer to feed my own stock, although I have a very good boy to help me do my work.

The crops in this vicinity were very good this year. The farmers are making great improvements on their buildings, which denotes that their bank account is all right.

H. V. ROBINSON.

Orrington, Dec. 19.

Our subscriber, Mr. G. A. Glover, commends the *Feeders' Column* of the *Farmer*. A short time since he got out of cotton seed meal and fed bran instead. The same cost of bran was fed with corn meal as before was fed of cotton seed, and his thirteen cows fell off six pounds of butter in two weeks.























Choice Miscellany.

A MEMORY WITH A MORAL.

(William C. Prime, L.L.D., in The Journal of Education.)

The last day of the trout fishing was a fine one. I had done but little of it, but I had a very good success. I had been out for a week, and I had been very successful. I had been out for a week, and I had been very successful. I had been out for a week, and I had been very successful.

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THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE.

Once, in traveling, I observed an old building, which appeared to be falling into ruins. No smoke issued from the broken chimney. The casements were gone, and through their vacant places, the wind whistled, and the rain fell.

I asked "What is this building, which is thus suffered to decay?" They answered, "A school house. But a part of its structure has been used to build a better one, a more convenient spot for the village children."

So I paused there, a little time, to meditate. And I said to myself, "what a variety of scenes may have passed within these tottering walls. Where are the teachers, who in years gone by sat in the chair of State, and ruled and gave instruction?"

In yonder corner, perhaps, was a low bench, for the little ones conning their alphabet. Those little ones have grown and died. The babes whom they have rocked in the cradle, have shown the same tenderness to their own babes. "One generation passeth and another cometh."

Beneath these windows that trim old sycamore looked in with all its show of green leaves, waving and gossiping in the breeze of summer. I imagine a row of young girls, with their sunny locks knitted, sewing, or listening with serious faces, while the mistress taught them what it was necessary for them to know, when they became women.

The snows of winter seem to spread around. The frozen pond, in the rear of the school house, is covered with boys. The clock strikes nine. They hasten to their school. The narrow entry rings with the jingle of their skates, as they throw them down. One or two, who love to play better than study, approach with more lingering steps.

Methods, I see their ruddy faces as they take their seats. The master raises a stern eye at their clamor or stifled laughter, and commands them to write their copies, and attend to their sums. But the treatise of Arithmetic is turned into dog's ears, by those whose roving thoughts are among their winter sports. Then there is the long sigh of intolerance and the tears of sadness as were punished. And there was impatience there, and ambition, and kindlings of intellect, and the delights of knowledge. The master endeavors to rule each for their good, and the wise magistrate restrains the people by law.

I fancy that I behold that teacher walking homeward, weary and thoughtful, when the day was done. He felt sadness for those who did not improve, and joy for those who did, he rejoiced with a peculiar love.

Perhaps he repeated mournfully the words of the prophet. "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for naught, and for a voice from heaven, answering in his heart, 'Yet surely thy judgment is with the Lord—and thy work with thy God!'"

Old school house! Condidst thou speak, I doubt not thou wouldst tell me that children have been taught, and that the ingenious mechanics on whom the comfort of the community depends; athletic farmers, laying the forest low, and forcing earth to yield her increase; physicians, who the sufferer blesses; eloquent lawyers, wise statesmen; holy priests, who interpret the word of the Almighty.

I wish that the school houses in our country were more commodious and tasteful in their construction, more spacious and airy—surrounded with trees, and beautiful with shrubbery.

There was once a benevolent man went to the continent of New Holland. He found multitudes of children grown up, neglected and ignorant. He wished much to have them taught. But there was no school house.

So he collected them under a spreading tree, whose branches would shelter at least one hundred from the heat of the sun. He hung canvas with paint over the heads of the children. And there he taught the poor colonists to read, and to spell, and to sing.

There are very beautiful birds in that country. Many of them had nests in the trees. So they flew about, and tending their young, while the children were learning below—and the chirping of the new fledged birds, and the warbling of their parents—and the busy voices of the children, learning to read, and the sweet music in the heart of that benevolent man.

Did they not ascend and mingle with the praises of angels, around the Throne?

THEY SURPRISED HIM.

When Jack Was Away the Girls Fixed Up His Room.

Away on his vacation was Jack, and while he was gone the dear girls thought it would be a perfectly good idea to fix up his room. It was a rather demoralized looking apartment from a feminine point of view, but regarded through masculine eyes it was just about right and perfectly comfortable.

But the girls wanted to surprise brother Jack. So they invaded the sanctum one day and transformed it. They threw out the collection of old pipes on the mantel, and turned Pauline Hall's picture to the wall. They gave Jack's old slippers to the janitor, and they decorated the room with their own hands.

They painted forget-me-nots on his boxing gloves, and put a drape of flowered chintz over the collection of photographs which adorned the wall. They decorated the room with their own hands.

They embroidered tender little sentiments, and stuck them all over regardlessly. "A Friend in Need" on the soap dish. "Think of Me" on the liquor stand, and "Sweetest to the Sweet" on the shoe bag.

Then they stood off and admired it. It was too lovely for anything! Then Jack came home, and they watched him to see how he would take it.

He looked about him in a dazed sort of way first, and put his hand to his forehead. "What is this?" he said, in a hoarse voice, touching a small, fluffy pin cushion which stood on the floor.

"Why, that's a footstool, Jack. When you're reading, you can put your feet on it and be just as comfortable as you wish." "What's that wedding cake doing over there in the fender?"

"That's not a wedding cake, it's your old cupid. We decorated it with the Valentine's card, and the white ribbon. Don't you think it's cute?"

"Where have you taken the bed?" "We're sitting on it, you great goose; we've rigged it up as an oriental divan. You'll have to take down the Japanese umbrella and the lighted incense burner before you go to bed. It's too sweet, isn't it?"

"But I can't do without a washstand." "Why, you dear boy, you just loop this curtain one side, remove the vase, and be careful of the swinging ornament, and there you are."

"Is that a music box over the desk?" "Well, the idea! That's only the boot-jack. We stuck the shoehorn to it and glued it, and now you can keep matches in it."

"Say, got any brandy in the house?" "Why, yes. Are you ill?" "Well, I do feel a little rocky; but say, before you go, what's this wriggling collection of blue snakes over the bed?"

"That's an illuminated motto. Can't you read it?" "Why, it's just as plain as day—'God Bless This Flat'—it will hang right over your head every morning."

Then the strong man buried his head in an old rose cushion with Nile green bows, and went like a boy.

A Game of Chance.

Lord Holland relates in his memoirs how once the military career of Napoleon I., and thereafter to a certain extent the fate of Europe, depended upon a game of hazard. When Napoleon was appointed for the first time as independent commanding general of the Italian army, the directory then at the head of France were not willing, or perhaps not able, to provide enough money for him to defray the expenses of himself and his adjutants to the seat of war and to make a proper show as commanding general of so considerable an army at his headquarters.

Napoleon borrowed money from his friends, and after exhausting all his credit had succeeded in collecting 20,000 francs.

He gave the whole amount to Junot, a young officer who was known as a frequent visitor of the gaming table, and told him either to lose the whole sum in the game or to win enough to return him the amount doubled, as it would depend upon his success whether he could accept the appointment as commanding general of the Italian army, and also appoint himself his adjutant.

Napoleon waited almost the whole night for his return. Finally, at four o'clock in the morning, Junot entered and gave Napoleon 40,000 francs with the remark that he had gambled away nearly the whole sum of 20,000 francs, until he had at last succeeded in winning several high stakes in succession. Then Napoleon accepted the appointment, which was destined to confer the highest glory upon him. Junot became one of his marshals.

The promptness with which Ayer's Cherry Pectoral stops a hacking cough and induces refreshing sleep is something marvelous. It never fails to give instant relief, even in the worst cases of throat and lung trouble, and is the best remedy for whooping cough.

Mrs. Chas. Smith of James, Ohio, writes: "I have used Ayer's Cherry Pectoral for a hacking cough, and it has cured me. I could hear of for the past five years, but Carter's Little Liver Pills did me more good than all the rest."

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A Powerful Flesh Maker. A process that kills the taste of cod-liver oil has done good service—but the process that both kills the taste and effects partial digestion has done much more.

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Scott's Emulsion checks Consumption and all other wasting diseases.

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